

# hf happenings 289

February 08

HF Happenings via Yahoo Groups [HF\\_Happenings-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:HF_Happenings-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

South African Radio League      Suid-Afrikaanse Radioliga  
Member Society of the International Amateur Radio Union Region 1



## February

14 Valentine's Day  
16 Closing date SARL Awards  
16 & 17 ARRL International DX CW Contest  
21 Total lunar eclipse  
23 & 24 CQ 160 metre SSB Contest  
24 VHF/UHF Sprint  
25 Closing date HF Field day logs  
29 Closing date PEARS VHF/UHF Logs

## ..... On The Air

You have heard of lighthouses on the air, mills on the air, summits on the air, Jamboree on the Air, Hunting Lions on the air and even Mines on the air.

### Blockhouses on the Air

The Sasolburg ARC, ZS4SRK desires to launch a project, which could possibly lead to the preservation of the Angle Boer War Blockhouses.



They have devised a method to put focus on these heritage sites but need input from fellow amateurs. Please visit the General Section of the SARL Forum at [www.sarl.org.za/forum](http://www.sarl.org.za/forum) and follow the link called General and then Blockhouse Project and give your comments. The Sasolburg club would like to thank you in advance for your comments.

Also, visit [www.magweb.com/sample/scol/scc11blc.htm](http://www.magweb.com/sample/scol/scc11blc.htm) and do a search on Google as well.

### Churches and Chapels

John, G3XYF is co-ordinating Churches and Chapels on the air (CHOTA). The date this year is Saturday 13 September 2008. Planning is starting now, so if you are interested in participating please contact John, G3XYF by email to [g3yxf@btconnect.com](mailto:g3yxf@btconnect.com)

Also, visit the WOTA (Women on the Air) web page. The Web site, put together by a SWL (FE11DX) Steven has interesting pictures and biographies of active YLs around the globe. Look at <http://wota2008.blogspot.com>

## 2008 RSGB Commonwealth CW Contest

John Dunnington, G3LZQ sent me an e-mail about the 2008 RSGB Commonwealth CW Contest in March. He says, "This year will be different for the Commonwealth Contest as Andrew, ZS6AA has taken up the offer to Captain a Southern African Team. So far we have Vidi, ZS1EL; Donovan, ZS2DL; John, ZS3/G3LZQ; Andrew, ZS6AA; Brian, 9J2BO; Frank, V51AS; Nick, 5X1NH and Gwyn, 3B8/G4FKH.



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Ideally, we need three more team members to forward their names to Andrew [[andrew.roos@mweb.co.za](mailto:andrew.roos@mweb.co.za)], the only requirement is they spend some time in the Commonwealth Contest and forward an entry by email to either Andrew or the HFCC at the RSGB.

Would be great if we could have all ZS Provinces represented but perhaps another year as the Team event is here to stay."

Any ZS4 and ZS5 CW operators out there willing to take part?

## *DXCC News .....*

Bill Moore, NC1L, ARRL DXCC Manager, states that the following operation is approved for DXCC credit:

E4/OM2DX - Palestine, 2007 Operation

J5C - Guinea-Bissau, 2008 Operation

VK9WWI - Willis Island, 2007 Operation

YI9PT - Iraq, Current Operation

If you have had any cards rejected for these operations send a note to [dxcc@arrl.org](mailto:dxcc@arrl.org) to have your DXCC record updated

Paul, F6EXV reports that Bill Moore, NC1L the ARRL DXCC Manager, has approved the TO5FJ operation valid for DXCC. He will start answering cards within a couple of weeks. For whoever wants to QSL direct and has not sent cards yet, please do so rapidly, as there will be a postal increase on 1 March. Please do *\*not\** use self-addressed *\*STAMPED\** envelopes, and refer to my webpage for QSL directions and log online at [www.f6exv.org/](http://www.f6exv.org/)

New Entity About To Happen. According to the "Associated Press" on Friday, 8 February, a Serbian minister for Kosovo stated that his government has received information that the Province's Albanian leadership will declare independence on 17 February. For details, go to [http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20080208/ap\\_on\\_re\\_eu/serbia\\_kosovo\\_independence](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20080208/ap_on_re_eu/serbia_kosovo_independence)

## *DX from Africa*

Kerguelen, FT. Gildas, TU5KG expects to be active as FT5XR from Port aux Francais, Kerguelen on 15 - 16 February, while his fishing boat is refuelling. Then he will be sailing in the Crozet area until around 15 March, when he will stop again at Port aux Francais before heading back to Reunion. QSL via F4EFI, direct or bureau.

Mauritius 3B8 and Rodrigues 3B9. Jose, ON4LAC will be active from Mauritius Island (3B8, AF-049) 18 October to 6 November and from Rodrigues Island (3B9 AF-017) 7 November to 12 December. Jose is waiting to receive his call signs from ICTA. QSL via his home call.

Senegal, 6W. From 2 February to 15 April, HA3AUI will sign 6W2SC operating mainly on digital modes from 160 to 10 m with some SSB. QSL via bureau, LoTW, eQSL e/o direct.

The Gambia, C5. André, ON7YK (C56YK) and Jose, ON4LAC (C56JC) will be active from Kerr Serign, Banjul, The Gambia (WW Loc. IK13PM) between 11 February and 6 March. Plans are to



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operate on 80 - 10 metres, with some activity on 160 and 6 metres as well. Expect C56JC to focus on PSK and RTTY. QSL via the information at QRZ.com.

Morocco, CN. Russell, G5XW will be active as CN2XW between 13 and 13 February from various parts of Morocco, from the Atlas Mountains across to the coast. He hopes to manage to get to IOTA group AF-065 during this time. Equipment will be minimum as this is a backpacking holiday. QSL direct to home call.

Morocco, CN. Hart, DL7BC will be active from Morocco as CN2BC during the CQ WW WPX SSB Contest (29 - 30 March) as a Single-Op/All-Band entry. QSL via DL7BC.

Kenya, 5Z4. Sigi, DL7DF, will be on holiday with his XYL Sabine at Diani Beach at the coastline of Kenya. He will be active as 5Z4HW from 27 February to 11 March. Activity will be on 160 - 10 metres, CW, SSB, RTTY and SSTV. Operations will be limited (holiday style). He will use an IC-735 and Linear TY900. Antennas will be a R7 vertical and 18 m Tower for 160/80 m. QSL via DL7DF, direct or by the DARC Bureau. Visit his Web page at [www.DL7DF.com](http://www.DL7DF.com)

## Contesting Blues

Might sound like a title of a song...? The log sheets and summaries of the 1<sup>st</sup> leg of the SARL are slowly coming in. One log summary was faxed to the National Amateur Radio Centre, but nowhere in the Contest Manual is the NARC shown as a recipient of contest logs. One log was scanned from the working log, converted to Adobe and e-mail to me - almost 6 MB in size.

General Contest Rule 5 a states "Participants may submit text file logs and summary sheets instead of written logs, by disk or e-mail. **The received log shall be capable of being viewed and printed using Microsoft® Notepad/WordPad, Word or Excel.** The summary sheet shall include the declaration specified in Clause 4f. The Contest Committee may request a signed paper copy."

Please make the job easier for the contest committees. I am busy setting up Excel spreadsheets for the various contests to make it easier for you as well. Carel, ZS3OBE has created an Excel spreadsheet for the Hamnet Contest, there is a spreadsheet for the HF Field Day and one for the SARL HF Phone and CW contests. The rest will follow.

## Contest Calendar

*This week's contests compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 11 to 18 February 2008*

NCCC Sprint  
03:30 - 04:00 UTC 15 Feb  
Mode: CW  
Bands: (see rules)  
Classes: (none)  
Exchange: (see rules)  
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 17 February 2008  
E-mail logs to: (none)  
Post log summary at:  
<http://www.hornucopia.com/3830score/>  
Mail logs to: (none)  
Find rules at:  
<http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.htm>



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## PODXS 070 Club Valentine Sprint

20:00 local 15 Feb to 02:00 local 16 Feb

Mode: PSK31

Bands: 160, 80 and 40 m

Classes: OM (QRP/LP); YL (QRP/LP)

Max power: LP: 50 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: Name, OM or YL and state, province or country

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with OM; 2 points per QSO with YL

Multipliers: Each state, province and DXCC country once only

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 7 March 2008

E-mail logs to: k8ij[at]arrl[dot]net

Mail logs to: Charlie Trice, K8IJ, 26 Maple Valley Lane, Alexandria, KY 41001, USA

Find rules at:

[http://home.insightbb.com/%7Ectrice/070\\_ValentineSprint.htm](http://home.insightbb.com/%7Ectrice/070_ValentineSprint.htm)

## ARRL International DX CW Contest

00:00 UTC 16 Feb to 24:00 UTC 17 Feb

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m

Classes: Single Op All Band (QRP/Low/High); Single Op Single Band; Single Op Assisted; Multi-Single; Multi-Two; Multi-Multi

Max power: HP: 1500 watts; LP: 150 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: W/VE: RST and state or province; non-W/VE: RST and power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 3 points per QSO

Multipliers: W/VE: Each DXCC country once per band; Non-W/VE: Each state, District of Columbia, VE province/territory once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 17 March 2008

E-mail logs to: DXCW[at]arrl[dot]org

Mail logs to: ARRL Intl DX Contest, CW, ARRL, 225 Main St., Newington, CT 06111, USA

Find rules at:

<http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2008/intldx.html>

## Feld Hell Sprint

15:00 - 17:00 UTC 16 Feb

Mode: Feld Hell

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m

Classes: (none)

Max power: 100 watts

Exchange: FH Club Member: RST, state, province or country and member no; non-Member: RST, state, province or country and age

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 3 points per QSO with FH Club member

Bonus Points: (see rules)

Multipliers: Each state, province and country once only

Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x total mults) and bonus points

Submit logs by: 1 March 2008

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at:

<http://www.wa6l.com/contests/autolog.html>

Mail logs to: John Graf, WA6L, 23085 Old Ranch Rd, Alpine, CA 91901, USA

Find rules at:

[http://feldhellclub.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=61&Itemid=71](http://feldhellclub.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=61&Itemid=71)

## Run for the Bacon QRP Contest

02:00 - 04:00 UTC 18 Feb

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m

Classes: Single Band; All Band

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country and Member No or power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 3 points per QSO with member on same continent; 5 points per QSO with member on different continent

Multipliers: Each state, province, or country once; Multiply mults by 2 if &gt;50 members worked

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 25 February 2008

E-mail logs to: (none)



Upload log at:  
[www.gentzow.com/fpqrpr/autolog.php](http://www.gentzow.com/fpqrpr/autolog.php)  
 Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:  
[www.gentzow.com/fpqrpr/fpqrprun.php](http://www.gentzow.com/fpqrpr/fpqrprun.php)

## Next Week's Contests

AGCW Semi-Automatic Key Evening, 19:00 - 20:30 UTC 20 Feb  
 RSGB 80 m CW Club Championship, 20:00 - 21:30 UTC 21 Feb  
 NCCC Sprint, 03:30 - 04:00 UTC 22 Feb  
 Russian PSK WW Contest, 21:00 UTC 22 Feb to 21:00 UTC 23 Feb  
 CQ 160 Metre SSB Contest, 00:00 UTC 23 Feb to 23:59 UTC 24 Feb  
 REF SSB Contest, 06:00 UTC 23 Feb to 18:00 UTC 24 Feb  
 UBA DX CW Contest, 13:00 UTC 23 Feb to 13:00 UTC 24 Feb  
 Mississippi QSO Party, 15:00 UTC 23 Feb to 03:00 UTC 24 Feb  
 North American RTTY QSO Party, 18:00 UTC 23 Feb to 06:00 UTC 24 Feb  
 High Speed Club CW Contest, 09:00 - 11:00 UTC 24 Feb 15:00 - 17:00 UTC 24 Feb  
 North Carolina QSO Party, 17:00 UTC 24 Feb to 03:00 UTC 25 Feb

## Ducie Island, VP6D

The VP6DX team set sail from Mangareva aboard the Braveheart on 5 February, and expected to reach Ducie (OC-182) at their daybreak on the eighth, a day ahead of the nominal timeline. Once on the island, the team will set up camps, stations and antennas; all the stations are expected to start activity almost simultaneously on 10 or 11 February.

Announced frequencies are (\* = QSX down):

Band	CW	SSB	RTTY
160 m	1821.3	1843.3	-
80 m	3502	3784	-
40 m	7002	7099	-
30 m	10104	-	10139*
20 m	14002	14172	14089*
17 m	18072	18165*	-
15 m	21002	21295	-
12 m	24892	24987*	-
10 m	28002	28495	-
6 m	50105	50105	-

QSL via DL6LAU, direct only - please visit [www.vp6dx.com](http://www.vp6dx.com) for information on bureau cards and QSLing policy, as well as for updates, on-line logs, operating information and much more.

## Ham Radio 2008

The 33<sup>rd</sup> International Exhibition for Radio Amateurs - Europe's most important meeting for amateur radio enthusiasts - will take place on 27 - 29 June at Friedrichshafen. As usual, there will be a big flea market and commercial exhibitors, as well as many lectures and presentations. Ham Radio 2008 will be combined with the 59<sup>th</sup> Bodensee Convention organised by the DARC. More information at [www.darc.de/ausland/new/HR2008](http://www.darc.de/ausland/new/HR2008).



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## *DXCC Pushes to Get Ahead*

Due to several factors, including greater activity from new and reactivated DXCC entities, the ARRL DXCC Desk has been experiencing QSL card processing delays. According to ARRL DXCC Manager Bill Moore, NC1L, there are approximately 2300 applications currently on the list of received applications, resulting in a processing backlog of more than 12 weeks. Sharon Taratula, Membership and Volunteer Programs Supervisor, said that approximately 500 DXCC applications are processed each month. Even with the low sunspot numbers of the now defunct Solar Cycle 23, there has been an increase in DXCC activity, Dave Patton, NN1N, Manager of the ARRL Membership and Volunteer Services Department, said; DXCC is a division of this department. "We've added or reactivated new entities like Scarborough Reef, Swains Island and Montenegro," he said. "ARRL membership is up, and more people out there have HF privileges." ARRL Chief Operating Officer Harold Kramer, WJ1B, said that a new full-time person has just been added to the DXCC staff. "We are actively looking for an additional full-time employee for DXCC. By adding more staff, we can definitely cut down on the time it takes to process applications. While we are not happy with the delayed turnaround time for DXCC applications, I can assure everyone that we are maintaining our high level of concern for accuracy in processing and care for our customers QSLs and awards," Patton said. "I'm pleased that interest in operating awards is so high, and indeed there is evidence that new and returning ops are participating in ever increasing numbers. In the near future, as we continue to refine and improve LoTW and our processes, turnaround time will improve, the quality of our awards will improve and we can hopefully offer new and expanded awards programs like the brand new Fred Fish Memorial Award for confirming QSOs with the 488 grid squares in the continental US on 6 meters." Kramer said, "We take great care with people's DXCC applications. The DXCC crew is very diligent in handling and checking each applicant's cards. We don't rush the process because we don't want to make mistakes -- we know how important this program is to DXCC participants."

## *New Marconi Documentary from Mooncusser Films*

A new 16-minute movie about the life of famed inventor Guglielmo Marconi has been released by Mooncusser Films of Cape Cod, Massachusetts.

Chatham Radio - The Untold Story is narrated by Walter Cronkite, KB2GSD. It traces Marconi's career from his the first transatlantic transmission from his wireless station at Chatham on Cape Cod, to its life saving emergence as a life-saving tool at sea and though his creation of the business of wireless communication.

The film was produced by Barbara Cotnam, directed and edited by Christopher Seufert. You can see a sample of it on line at the company website at [www.MooncusserFilms.com](http://www.MooncusserFilms.com). (Mooncusser release)

## *I wonder if you have worked ...*

Going through the dictionary, I found some ham call signs. Have you worked AR1A, AR1ES, ARØMA, B1RD, B1LBO, BØOT, CR1B, CR1ER, CR1ME, CRØAK, D1CK, DØG, DØCK, DØDGE; DØDO; DØLBY, DØLL, DØN, DØNA, DØNG, DØWEL, DRINK, DW1GHT, E1GHT, E1NA, E1RE, EØN, F1G, F1ELD, FRØG, FR1ED, FR1DAY, FR1AR, FR1ER, FR1END, FR1EZE, FR1GHT, FR1GID, FRØDO, FROCK, FØAM, FØCUS, GØOD, GØLF, G1N, H1DE, IØTA, IØWA, IRØN, JØKE, LØRD, MØNTH, N1NE, NØTES, P1NK, R1NG, SH1RE, SCØPE, SMØOTH, SM1LE, SM1RK, SMØG, SMØKE, SMØKED, SP1CE, SP1DER, SP1EL, SPØCK, SPØIL, SPØKEN, TØAD, WØOF, WH1TE, WH1CH, WH1TCH, WH1SK, WH1SKY, WHØOSH, WH1ZZ, WØRD, W1NE, WØRS



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